MontCAS

(Montana Comprehensive Assessment System)

English Language Proficiency Assessment

Training for the 2008-2009 Administration

To advance slides, please click Enter.



Welcome. This presentation is designed for the orientation of Test Coordinators and Examiners of Montana's annual English Language Proficiency Assessment: the MontCAS ELP.

The MontCAS ELP is one component of the Montana Comprehensive Assessment System.

Outline

- I. Overview: What, Who, Why, When, and What's New
- II. Test Coordinators' and Examiners' Roles & Responsibilities
- III. Structure and Format of the Assessment
- IV. Test Administration Procedures
- V. After Testing



Here is what the presentation will cover:

We will start with an Overview: the What, Who, Why, and When of the assessment, as well as What's New for 2008-2009.

Then, we will look in detail at the Test Coordinators' and Examiners' Roles and Responsibilities from the arrival and distribution of test materials, through the assessment.

We will cover the Structure and Format of the Assessment, general and specific Test Administration Procedures, and finally, what to do after testing is complete.

I. What, Who, Why, When: MontCAS ELP

- Statewide test of all identified LEP students
- Mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act
- ◆ Testing window: October 20 November 21, 2008

MontcAS
(Montana Comprehensive Assessment System)
English Language
Proficiency Assessment

The MontCAS ELP measures proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension.

It is a statewide test that is to be given to all identified Limited English Proficient students in Montana public schools.

This annual statewide assessment is mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The test window this fall will be October 20th through November 21st.

Who is an LEP student?

- 1. Not born in U.S., native language other than English; OR
- Comes from an environment where English is not the dominant language; OR
- American Indian or Alaskan Native who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency.

<u>In addition</u>, the student must have sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language to deny such an individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English or to participate fully in our society.



Who is an LEP student?

Montana observes the federal definition of limited English proficiency. Both language impact and academic achievement must be considered when identifying LEP students. A student must be identified as one of the following:

- 1) An individual who was not born in the United States, or whose native language is a language other than English;
- 2) An individual who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant;
- 3) An individual who is American Indian or Alaskan Native and who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency.
- <u>In addition</u>, the student must have sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language to deny such an individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English or to participate fully in our society.

If examiners have any questions about which students should be tested, they should contact the System Test Coordinator.

	Key Dates					
September 15 – October 24	Enter enrollment and program participation data for LEP students into AIM System during AIM Beginning of Year Collection					
August 4 – 22	Submit special orders for Beginner Level forms, if needed					
September 4	Training materials ship to systems					
October 6	Assessment materials ship to System Test Coordinators					
November 10	Student barcode labels ship to System Test Coordinators					
October 20 – November 21	Assessment window					
December 5	Deadline for all materials to be shipped to Questar (All materials must be received by December 12th.)					

Key dates for the MontCAS ELP 2008-2009 assessment:

We encourage you to enter enrollment and program participation data for LEP students into the AIM system (*September 15 – October 24, 2008*) during the AIM Beginning of Year Collection. Data to create the bar code labels will be extracted from the AIM system on October 30, 2008. Students who are not identified as LEP or do not have a current 2008-2009 enrollment record on this date will not receive a barcode label. Please contact your school's AIM specialist to coordinate your data entry.

Orders for Beginner Level forms should be submitted to Questar by August 22nd.

Training Materials ship to systems on September 4th.

Assessment materials ship to systems on October 6th.

Student barcode labels ship, second-day delivery, to System Test Coordinators on November 10th.

The assessment window is October 20th through November 21st.

The deadline for all test materials and completed answer documents to be shipped back to Questar is December 5th. All materials must be received at Questar no later than December 12th.

6 What's New for 2008-2009

- Alternate Forms
 - Alternative set of forms
- **Different Listening Tests**
 - Students taking Level 1 and Level 2 forms cannot be tested together on the
 - Level 1 and Level 2 listening tests are no longer identical within a grade span
- Separate Listening CDs
 - Two Listening CDs for each grade span: one for Level 1 and one for Level 2
- Different Speaking Tests
 - Level 1 and Level 2 speaking tests are no longer identical.
 - Administer the appropriate test, using the correct script in the Examiner Manual
- Student Barcode Labels
 - Examiners print student's full name on answer document
 - School Test Coordinator checks and affixes barcode labels, after materials are returned to them by examiners
 - New fields: DOB, Home Language, Language of Impact



Proficiency Assessment

Many of you may already be familiar with the MontCAS ELP from the 2007-2008 administration. You should be aware, however, of certain changes that have been implemented for 2008-2009.

- •Alternate Forms. The 2008-2009 MontCAS ELP is an alternate set of forms, with some items the same as in 2007-2008 and some different.
- •Different Listening Tests. Students taking Level 1 and Level 2 forms cannot be tested together on the Listening Test this year. These tests are no longer identical within a grade span. All students must take the same form for all four subtests (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking). For example, if a student took the D2 Reading and Writing tests, he or she must also take the D2 Listening and Speaking tests.
- •Separate Listening CDs. Because the Listening Tests are not the same, there will be two separate Listening CDs for each grade span, one for the Level 1 test and one for the Level 2 test. For example, for grade span 3-5, there will be a C1 Listening CD and a C2 Listening CD.
- •Different Speaking Tests. Like the Listening Tests, the Speaking Tests will no longer be identical on Level 1 and Level 2 forms within a grade span. Examiners should make sure they are administering the appropriate test, using the correct script in the Examiner Manual. For grade span 1-2, there is a single Speaking Prompt Booklet divided into two sections (B1 and B2).
- •Student Barcode Labels. Student ID labels will be provided for all students who have been registered during the AIM Beginning of Year Collection, as in 2007. This year, however, the Examiner will print the student's last name, first name, and middle initial on the student's answer document. The School Test Coordinator is then responsible for checking, matching up and affixing the appropriate student barcode labels after the testing materials are returned to them by examiners. Additionally, student barcode labels show 3 new fields: Date of Birth, Home Language, and Language of Impact.

II. Roles and Responsibilities

System Test Coordinator
School Test Coordinator
Examiner

Montcas
English Language
Proficiency Assessment

Now we will look at the roles and responsibilities of the three key players in this assessment:

- •the System Test Coordinator
- •the School Test Coordinator
- •the Examiner

We will look at each of your responsibilities before and during the assessment.

8 System Test Coordinator

Before testing:

- Receive and distribute training materials.
- Receive, inventory, and distribute assessment materials.
- Order additional materials, if needed, using the Additional Materials Worksheet downloaded from the OPI website.
- Communicate the importance of test security using the OPI Guidelines and Procedures for Test Security. http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/OPIGuideProcTS.pdf
- Inform School Coordinators about the testing window and deadline



Let's start with the responsibilities of the System Test Coordinator. Before testing:

You will be responsible for receiving and distributing the MontCAS ELP training materials.

- Training materials ship out on September 4th and will arrive in approximately 5 business days.

You will also be responsible for receiving and distributing the main shipment of MontCAS ELP assessment materials and later shipment of the Student Barcode Labels to School Coordinators.

- Test materials will ship out to the System Test Coordinator from Questar by October 6th. They will be packaged by school, and it will be your responsibility to distribute the packets to each School Coordinator. Keep the box or boxes in which these materials were shipped as they will be needed for returning materials to Questar. Student Barcode Labels will ship from Questar on November 10th and will be organized by school.

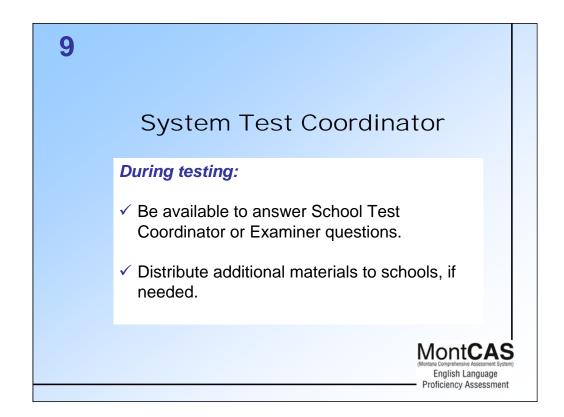
You will receive and keep secure the materials in the System Test Coordinator packet.

- This packet contains a copy of the packing slip, the pre-printed System ID Sheet, the Return of Materials Divider Sheet, the UPS return label or labels, and, in most cases, some test material overage. The extra materials are for distribution to any school that needs additional forms, answer documents, etc.

You will communicate the importance of test security.

- Make sure all School Coordinators understand the need to keep these test materials secure before, between, and after testing sessions. They should be aware that there are actual test questions in the Examiner Manuals, so these manuals must also be kept in a secure location. They should be aware that all materials are security coded and must be accounted for at the end of testing.

You will inform School Coordinators that the testing window is October 20th through November 21st, 2008. Let them know that the completed answer documents along with all other used and unused test materials must be returned to you by November 26th.



During Testing, you should be available to answer any questions from School Test Coordinators or examiners, or, if you do not know the answer, to find out. For questions concerning who should be tested, you can contact Lynn Hinch at OPI. For questions relating to test administration, you should first check the Introduction to the Examiner Manual. If the answer is not found there, then e-mail the MontCAS ELP Coordinator.

You are also responsible for distributing additional materials to schools, if needed. If schools need additional test materials, they will contact you. If you do not have enough, you should contact Karen Richem.

The contact information for everyone just mentioned is found on the Contact Information page of the *MontCAS ELP Test Coordinator's Guide* as well as at the end of this presentation.

System Test Coordinator Key to a smooth operation: → Read the MontCAS ELP Test Coordinator's Guide, then use it as a reference tool when needed. → Use the System Test Coordinator's Checklist. MontCAS Mont

The 2008-2009 MontCAS ELP Test Coordinator's Guide is your key to a smooth operation. Read it through at least once, then use it as a reference tool when needed.

In the *Test Coordinator's Guide* you will find the System Test Coordinator's Checklist. Please use it, and encourage the School Test Coordinators to use their checklists as well.

School Test Coordinator

Before testing:

- ✓ Receive assessment materials.
- Check quantities.
- Distribute materials to examiners.
- ✓ Implement procedures to maintain test security.
- Plan training for examiners.
- Schedule testing sessions.



Now we will look at the responsibilities of and direct our comments to the School Test Coordinator.

You should receive the assessment materials from the System Test Coordinator about a week before the testing window and the Student Barcode Labels from the System Test Coordinator shortly after November 12th.

You are responsible for checking the packaged materials against the packing slip and using the Distribution Tables in the Test Coordinator's Guide to make sure that you have sufficient materials to test all identified LEP students. If additional materials are needed, you should contact the System Test Coordinator immediately.

You will be responsible for distributing materials to examiners. The Distribution Tables will also be useful for this task. Make sure the examiners receive their Examiner Manuals in plenty of time to study them before the actual assessment.

You will be responsible for implementing procedures to maintain test security. You should make sure that all examiners understand the need to keep all test materials secure before, between, and after testing sessions. You should be aware that there are actual test questions in the Examiner Manuals, so these manuals must also be kept in a secure location.

You should plan training for examiners. All examiners should be instructed to watch the Examiner Training portion of this presentation either individually or as a group. There is a section in the Test Coordinator's Guide about training examiners.

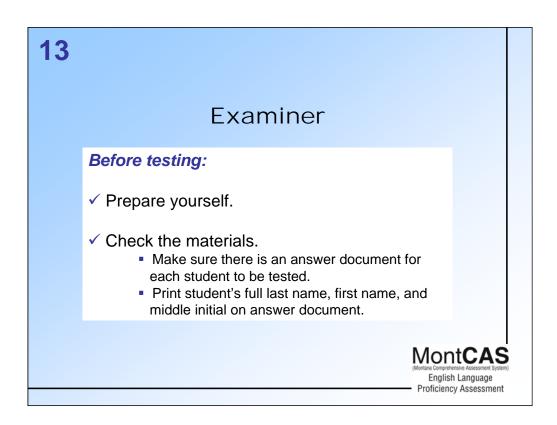
You will be responsible for scheduling testing sessions. See the Estimated Administration Times chart in the Test Coordinator's Guide. It tells which parts of the test are individually administered, which sessions can be combined, and how long they will probably take.

School Test Coordinator Key to a smooth operation: → Use the School Test Coordinator's Checklist found in the MontCAS ELP Test Coordinator's Guide. MontCAS Indicate Compensation Assessment MontCAS English Language Proficiency Assessment

Here we give the same advice as to the System Test Coordinator. The key to a smooth operation at the school level is for the School Test Coordinator to use the School Test Coordinator's Checklist in the *MontCAS ELP Test Coordinator's Guide*.

Each school will receive a printed copy of the *Test Coordinator's Guide*. Additional copies can also be downloaded online. Please contact the MontCAS ELP Coordinator for additional details.

We understand that some school systems have a small LEP population and that the System Test Coordinator and the School Test Coordinator may be the same person. In that case, you will need to use both checklists.

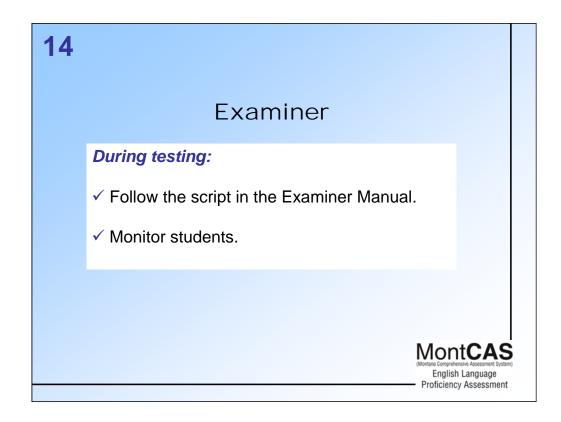


Now let's look at the examiner's role.

Before testing, it is the examiner's responsibility to prepare him- or herself. The best way to do this is to watch the Examiner Training Presentation and to read the Examiner Manuals for all the grade spans he or she will be testing.

After receiving the test materials from the School Test Coordinator, the examiner should check to make sure there are sufficient test booklets for testing all students. The materials needed for each test are listed in the Examiner Manual.

Also, make sure that there is an answer document for each student to be tested. The examiner is responsible for printing a student's full last name, first name, and middle initial on the student's answer document. Later, the School Test Coordinator will match up and affix the appropriate student barcode label on the student's answer document.

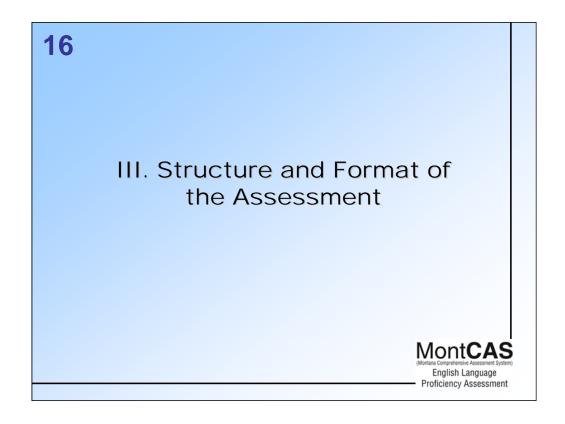


During testing, the examiner follows the script in the Examiner Manual and does not deviate from this script. Uniform test administration is essential to ensure high quality, reliable test data and to make the test fair for all students.

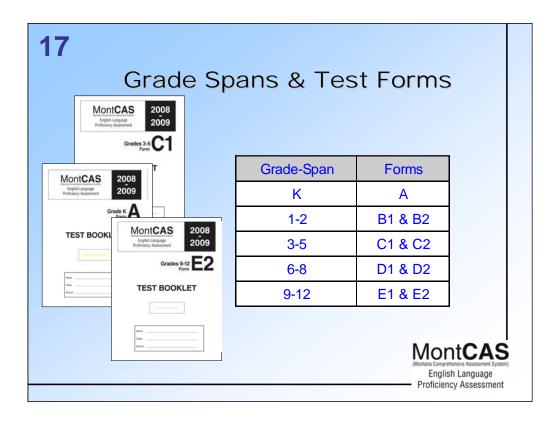
During test administration, the examiner should monitor students in Grades 3-12 to make sure they are marking their answers on the answer document and not in the test booklet, and that they are filling in the scannable bubbles completely. Students in Grades 1-2 mark their answers in the scannable test booklets. Examiners mark the student's answer document in Kindergarten.

Examiner Key to a smooth assessment process: Use the Examiner's Checklist found in each Examiner Manual. Montcas English Language Proficiency Assessment

The examiner should be sure to use the Examiner's Checklist found in each Examiner Manual. It is at the end of the General Directions section, and it may be photocopied.



Now we'll look at the structure and format of the assessment.

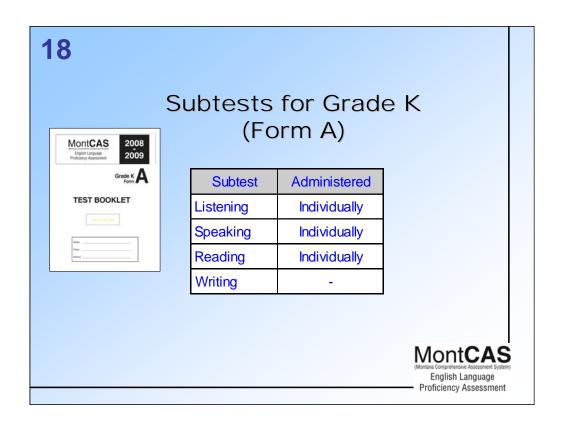


The MontCAS ELP has forms for 5 different grade spans.

Kindergarteners take Form A. First and second graders take Form B1 or B2. Students in grades 3-5 take Form C1 or C2. Students in grades 6-8 take Form D1 or D2. Students in grades 9-12 take Form E1 or E2.

No off-level testing is allowed. A student must take a form that corresponds to his or her current grade level.

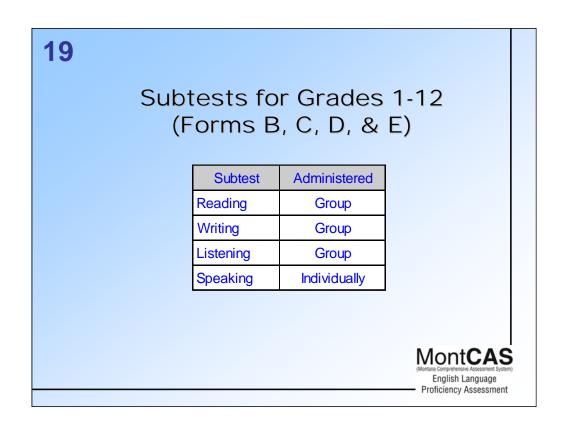
For all grade spans except Kindergarten, there are two test booklets of differing difficulty. Form 1 (B1, C1, D1, E1) is <u>only</u> to be used by LEP students with beginning or novice skills in English. So it would be appropriate for students in their first year in a U.S. school (LEP1) and possibly other LEP students who are not reading simple stories and writing simple sentences. Form 2 (B2, C2, D2, E2) is for all other LEP students.



The ELP is divided into 4 subtests: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

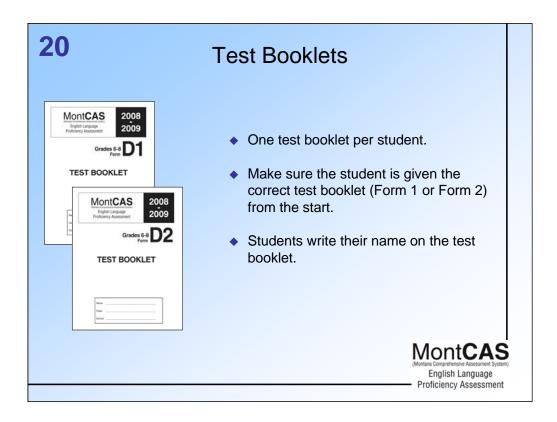
At the kindergarten level, there are only three subtests — Listening, Speaking, and Reading — and all three are individually administered. The Writing section is a checklist only, based on classroom observation. It is not administered.

At the kindergarten level, there are no separate Beginner level forms. All students take the same test.



For grades 1 and up, all 4 subtests are administered to all students.

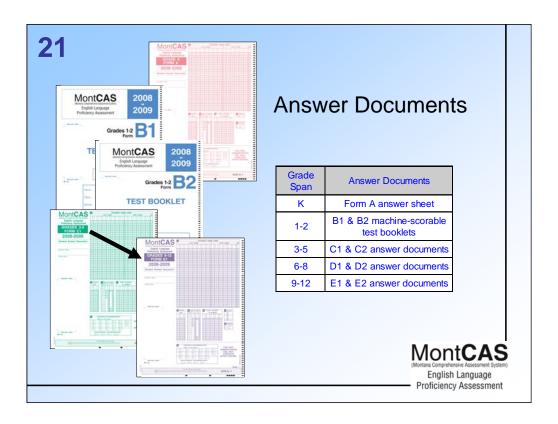
The Reading, Writing, and Listening subtests are group administered. The Speaking subtest is individually administered.



Now we will take a look at the test materials. First, the test booklets.

There is one test booklet per student. Make sure the student is given the correct test booklet (Form 1 or Form 2) from the start. Students may not switch test booklets halfway through the test. For example, if they took the <u>D2</u> Reading Test, they will also have to take the <u>D2</u> Writing Test. They cannot switch to the <u>D1</u> Writing Test.

Have students write their name on their test booklet at the first test session.



Each student has a single answer document.

For grade K, there is a single answer sheet which is designated as Form A.

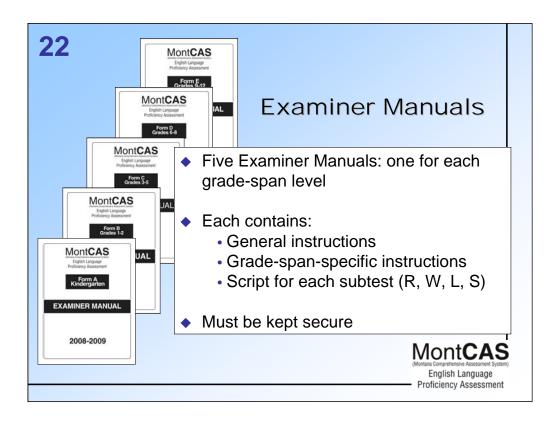
For grades 1 through 12, examiners must take care to assign the correct answer document to each student, depending on whether the student will be taking the beginner or the regular test form.

For grade span 1-2, answers are marked in either the B1 or B2 machine scorable test booklet.

Students in grades 3-5 use either the C1 or the C2 answer document, depending on which test form they are taking.

Students in grades 6-8, use either the D1 or the D2 answer document.

And students in grades 9-12, use either the E1 or the E2 answer document.



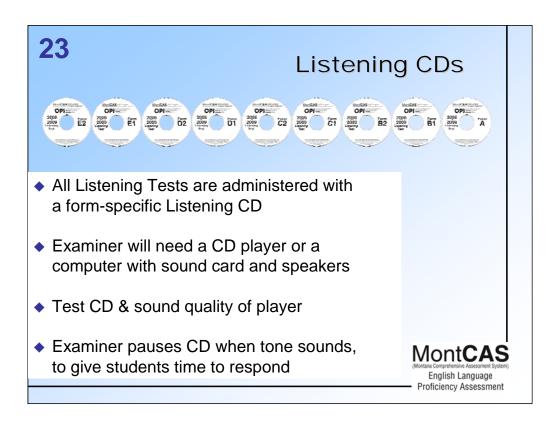
There are 5 different Examiner Manuals, one for each grade-span level. That is, there is a Form A Examiner Manual, a Form B Examiner Manual, etc.

Each manual contains general instructions such as Preparing for the Test, Rules Regarding Prompting, Guidelines for Test Accommodations, and Post-Test Instructions.

Each manual also contains level-specific instructions such as the materials needed for testing students at this level, and the estimated time to administer each subtest.

The manuals also contain the script for administering each subtest at this gradespan level, and scoring guides for rating oral responses.

Note that these manuals must be kept secure since they contain actual test questions.

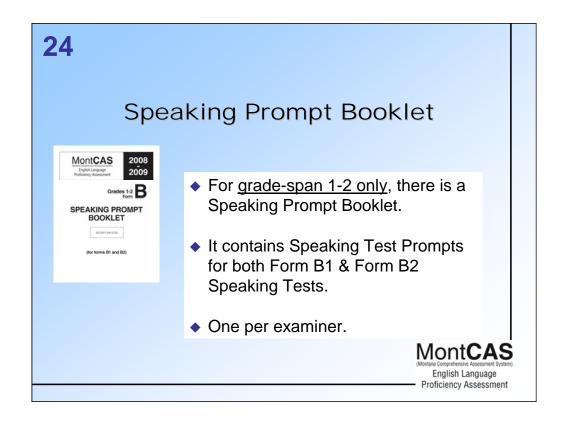


All Listening Tests are administered with form-specific Listening CDs. That is, there is a Form A CD for kindergarten, a Form B1 CD for testing 1st and 2nd graders taking the B1 test form, a Form B2 for testing 1st and 2nd graders taking the B2 test form, and so on.

Examiners will need a CD player <u>or</u> a computer with sound card, speakers, and a CD-ROM drive. Examiners should be sure to test the CD itself as well as the sound quality of the player before the actual test session.

During the test, the examiner pauses the CD when a tone sounds. This gives students time to mark their response in their answer booklet.

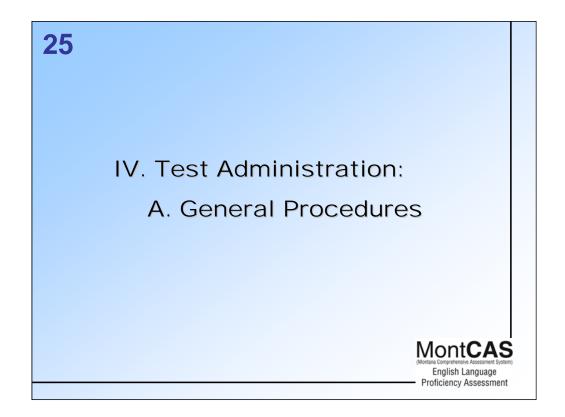
Note that examiners must take care to administer the correct Listening CD, depending on which form the students are taking.



For grade span 1-2 only, there is a Speaking Prompt Booklet. At all other levels, the Speaking Test prompts are in the Test Booklet itself, thus no separate prompt book is needed.

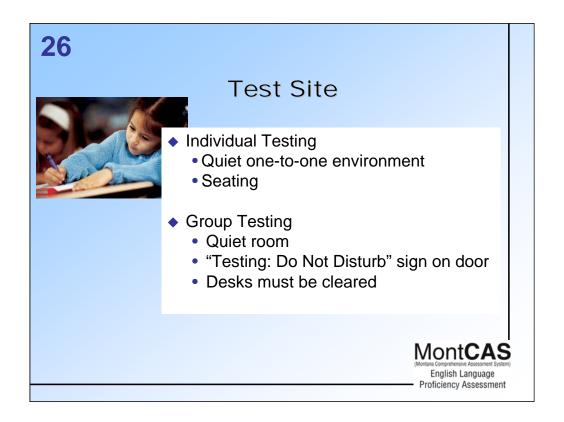
Note that the Speaking Prompt Booklet contains the Speaking Test prompts for administering both the Form B1 and the Form B2 Speaking Tests. Examiners must be careful to use the appropriate section of the prompt booklet when administering the Speaking Test. For example, the Form B1 Speaking Test Prompts should be used for students taking the Form B1 test forms.

You will need one Speaking Prompt Booklet per Grade 1-2 examiner.



Test Administration

First we will go over the general procedures that apply to all grade-span levels of the test. Then we will look at each grade-span test individually.



Test Site.

For individual testing, the setting should be a quiet one-to-one environment. The testing should take place where other students cannot hear the test items or see the test materials. The examiner should sit close enough to the student to point to questions and illustrations in the student test booklet during test administration.

For group testing, the room should be quiet. Hang a "Testing: Do Not Disturb" sign on the door. Student desks must be cleared of all materials other than pencils and test materials.

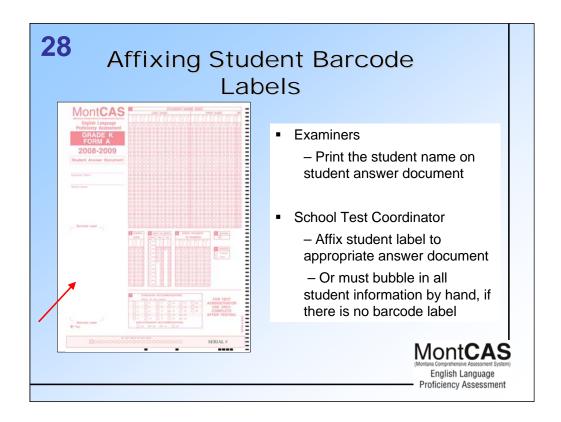
Any educational materials posted on the walls that could help students answer specific questions should be removed or covered.

Test Security • Responsibility of both the Test Coordinator and Examiner • All test materials must be accounted for • No pages may be duplicated (except Examiner Checklist) Montcas Proficiency Assessment

Test Security.

It is the responsibility of both the Test Coordinator and the Examiner to keep all test materials in their possession secure, before, during, and after testing. This includes not just the student test booklets, but also the Examiner Manuals and the Listening CDs.

With the exception of the page containing the Examiner Checklist, no pages of the manuals or test booklets may be photocopied or duplicated in any way. The test materials are all security coded. They are scanned before shipping to the district and will be scanned upon return. All pieces must be accounted for.



Student barcode labels will be provided for all students who were identified as LEP in the AIM system during the AIM Beginning of Year Collection. The barcode labels will arrive in a separate shipment from the assessment materials.

It is the Examiner's responsibility to print the full last name, first name, and middle initial on each student answer document using a No. 2 pencil before testing begins.

It is the School Test Coordinator's responsibility to check student information, match up, and affix each student label to the appropriate answer document after they receive the assessment materials from the examiners. Remember that student barcode labels will arrive after the assessment window opens. If a student has no barcode label, the School Coordinator must print and bubble in by hand all of the student's information. This includes the student's name, school code, date of birth, SSID number, grade, and gender. ONLY do this if there is no student barcode label for the student.

Voiding Barcode Labels

Void a Student Barcode Label if:

- the school designation is incorrect
- the student is no longer enrolled in the system
- the student is no longer identified as LEP
- the grade is incorrect. (The student's information must then be bubbled in on the answer document and the AIM coordinator instructed to correct the student's grade information in the AIM system.)



School Test Coordinators are responsible for reviewing the student barcode labels to verify student information and voiding student barcode labels, if necessary. Note that if a student name is misspelled on a barcode label, but all other student information is correct, the label should still be used on the student answer document. Also, if student date of birth, Home Language, or Language of Impact is incorrect or blank, the label should still be used on the answer document. In these cases, request that the AIM coordinator correct the student information directly in the AIM system. Note: The Home Language and Language of Impact fields show a language code. A look-up table for Home Language and for Language of Impact is provided in later slides.

The School Test Coordinator must void a Student Barcode Label if:

- the school designation is incorrect
- the student is no longer enrolled in the system
- the student is no longer identified as LEP
- the grade is incorrect. (Note that in this case, the student's information must then be bubbled in on the student answer document and the AIM coordinator instructed to correct the student's grade information in the AIM system.)



If the Test Coordinator receives a barcode label for a student who will not be administered the 2008-2009 MontCAS ELP, he or she must affix the label to the "Form for Voided Barcode Labels." The Test Coordinator must also specify the reason for voiding the barcode label in the space provided – student is no longer enrolled in your system, no longer identified as LEP, or any other reason the barcode label is not used – and package the form to be returned with the other used testing materials.

-111111	ai y/i ioine	Lang	juay	e Look-Up	lable
Code	Value		Code	Value	
eng	English		nai	North American Indian	
ara	Arabic		nav	Navajo; Navaho	
arp	Arapaho		nep	Nepali	
chi	Chinese		nor	Norwegian	
chy	Cheyenne		oji	Ojibwa	
cre	Cree		pol	Polish	
cze	Czech		por	Portuguese	
fas	Persion		rum	Romanian	
fin	Finnish		rus	Russian	
fre	French		sal	Salishan languages	
ger	German		sio	Siouan languages	
hin	Hindi		spa	Spanish; Castilian	
hmn	Hmong		tai	Tai (Other)	
hrv	Croation		tgl	Tagalog	
jpn	Japanese		tur	Turkish	
kor	Korean		urd	Urdu	
kut	Kutenai		vie	Vietnamese	ont C
mis	Uncoded languages		XXX	Blank Field	

The Test Coordinator should reference the Primary/Home Language Look-Up Table to translate the Home Language shown on a student barcode label. If Home Language is incorrectly coded on a student's barcode label, the Test Coordinator must request that the AIM Coordinator update the information in the AIM system. The student barcode label, though, can still be used on the student's answer document. Please note that if the Home Language field is coded "XXX", the information has not been entered into the AIM system. The AIM Coordinator must be notified to update the information.

Language of Impact Look-Up Table								
Code	Value		Code	Value				
01	Arabic		22	Navajo				
02	Arapaho		23	Nepalese				
03	Assiniboine		24	Norwegian				
04	Blackfeet		25	Oneida				
05	Cheyenne		26	Polish				
06	Chinese		27	Portuguese				
07	Chippewa		28	Romanian				
08	Cree		29	Russian				
09	Croatian		30	Salish				
10	Crow		31	Shoshone				
11	Czech		32	Sioux/Dakota				
12	Farsi		33	Spanish				
13	Finnish		34	Tagalog				
14	French		35	Thai				
15	German		36	Turkish				
16	Gros Ventre		37	Urdu				
17	Hindi, Hindustani		38	Vietnamese				
18	Hmong		39	Other - Non American Indian				
19	Japanese		40	Other - American Indian	MANACA			
20	Kootenai		XX	Blank Field	Mont CA			

The Test Coordinator should reference the Language of Impact Look-Up Table to translate the Language of Impact code shown on a student barcode label. If Home Language is incorrectly coded on a student's barcode label, the Test Coordinator must request that the AIM Coordinator update the information in the AIM system. The student barcode label, though, can still be used on the student's answer document. Please note that if the Language of Impact field is coded "XX", the information has not been entered into the AIM system. The AIM Coordinator must be notified to update the information.

Grouping Students for Testing

As long as the groups are not too large:

- All LEP1 Beginner Level students within a grade span may be tested together on the Reading, Writing and Listening Tests.
- All other LEP students within a grade span (using Level 2 form) may be tested together on the Reading, Writing and Listening Tests.



Who may be tested together?

As long as the groups are not too large, all LEP1 Beginner Level students <u>within a grade span</u> may be tested together on the Reading, Writing and Listening Tests. For example, all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders who are using the <u>C1</u> Test Booklet may be tested together in a group setting.

All other LEP students within a grade span (using the Level 2 form) may be tested together on the Reading, Writing and Listening Tests. For example, all 6th, 7th and 8th graders who are using the D2 Test Booklet may be tested together.

Reminder: Level 1 (Beginner) and Level 2 (Intermediate) students cannot be tested together on the Listening Test this year. These tests are no longer identical.

Maximum Group Size

Maximum group size depends on the maturity of the students and the number of available monitors.

- For grades 1 and 2, we recommend groups of no more than 5-7 students.
- There should be enough adults to monitor all students.
- For the Listening Test, take into consideration the acoustics.



What is the maximum group size?

This depends on the maturity of the students and the number of available monitors. For grades 1 and 2, we recommend groups of no more than 5 to 7 students.

There should be a sufficient number of adults to monitor all students throughout the test. Students should be monitored to make sure they are in the right section both in the test booklet and in the answer document, and to make sure they are filling in the scannable answer bubbles correctly.

For the Listening Test, an additional consideration is the acoustics of the room. Make sure that all students, even those in the back row, will be able to hear the Listening CD clearly.

Prompting

- ◆ In general, prompting is not allowed.
- Exceptions:
 - To clarify a student's response
 - If student responded in another language
- Examiner <u>may</u> repeat a question if:
 - There was a distraction or interruption
 - Student did not yet begin to respond and asks for question to be repeated



Prompting includes such things as

- elaborating on questions,
- clarifying information provided in test questions or in passages,
- pointing out specific information in questions or graphics,
- suggesting strategies that a student might use to arrive at a correct response.

In general, prompting is not allowed because it would give an unfair advantage to some students.

Exceptions:

- To clarify a student's response, the examiner may say: I don't understand what you said, or Can you tell me more?
- If the student answered in another language, the examiner may say: Can you say that in English?

The examiner may repeat a question once if:

- There was a distraction or interruption in the room.
- The student asks for the question to be repeated but only if the student has not yet begun a response.

The issue of prompting — and what is and is not allowed — is covered thoroughly in the Examiner Manual. It should be read by all examiners.

Translating Directions

- Initial directions to group may be translated into students' native language(s) if necessary.
- No item directions or item content may be translated. The script must be read in English exactly as printed in the Examiner Manual.



The only parts of the test that may be translated are the initial directions to the group: that is, the directions about checking to make sure they each have the correct booklet, finding the right page in the booklet or answer document, and instructions as to how to fill in bubbles correctly. This should only be done if some students are unable to understand these directions in English.

Once the test actually begins, the script must be read in English exactly as printed in the Examiner Manual. No item directions or item content may be translated or otherwise explained.

Timing The MontCAS ELP is an untimed test. During individual testing, examiners should allow approximately 15 seconds of wait time for a student to begin a response. During group testing, examiners should use their best judgment in allowing sufficient time for students to finish multiple-choice and extended responses. MontCAS English Language Proficiency Assessment

The MontCAS ELP is an untimed test.

During individual testing, the examiner should allow approximately 15 seconds of wait time for a student to begin a response to a question. This gives the student time to gather his or her thoughts and to think carefully before responding in English. If a child has not responded after 15 seconds, the examiner should move on to the next item or task and score the item as "no response" (the BL bubble).

During group testing, examiners should use their best judgment in allowing sufficient time for students to finish multiple-choice and extended responses.

Special Accommodations

- Any student who is given accommodations must have an IEP or 504 on file.
- Mark the appropriate Standard
 Accommodations/Non-Standard
 Accommodations bubble (box 7) on the answer document.
- Braille and Enlarged-Print versions of the test are available (ordering deadline: 8/22/08)



Accommodations should only be used when absolutely necessary.

Any student who is given special accommodations *must* have an IEP or 504 Plan on file with specific accommodations indicated.

If a student is tested with accommodations, the appropriate bubble (box 7) on the answer sheet <u>must</u> be marked.

Braille and enlarged-print versions of the test are available, but must be ordered ahead of time. The deadline for ordering these versions for 2008-2009 testing is August 22nd.

Detailed instructions on Standard and Nonstandard Accommodations are provided in each Examiner Manual, and should be read by all examiners as part of their preassessment preparation.



Non-allowable Accommodations

- Test administration in a language other than English
- Translation of the assessment into another language
- Translation of the assessment into sign language
- Use of dictionaries or other reference aids
- Accepting non-English responses



The following accommodations are NOT allowed:

- Test administration in a language other than English.
- Translation of the assessment into another language.
- Translation of the assessment into sign language.
- Use of dictionaries or other reference aids. This includes both monolingual and bilingual dictionaries.
- Accepting responses in a language other than English.

(If students respond in their native language, the examiner may ask them if they can "say that in English". If they can't, the response counts as 0.)

The use of any of these accommodations will invalidate test scores.

Scoring Guides
 Oral responses are scored by examiners at the time of testing
 Responses are rated using the Scoring Guides in the Examiner Manual
 Mark the Blank (BL) bubble if the student fails to respond
 Examiner must study the Scoring Guides before giving the test for the first time

All oral responses throughout the MontCAS ELP are scored by examiners at the time of testing. Responses are rated using the Scoring Guides in the Examiner Manual. There is a separate Scoring Guide for each item. The Scoring Guide will provide examples of appropriate responses and also of responses that should receive partial credit.

English Language Proficiency Assessment

If the student fails to respond at all, the Blank or BL bubble on the answer document should be marked.

As part of their pre-assessment preparation, examiners must study the Scoring Guides to become familiar with the rubrics.

Testing Absentees

- All LEP students should be administered all sections of the test.
- If a student is absent for a particular testing session, schedule a make-up test for that student within the testing window.



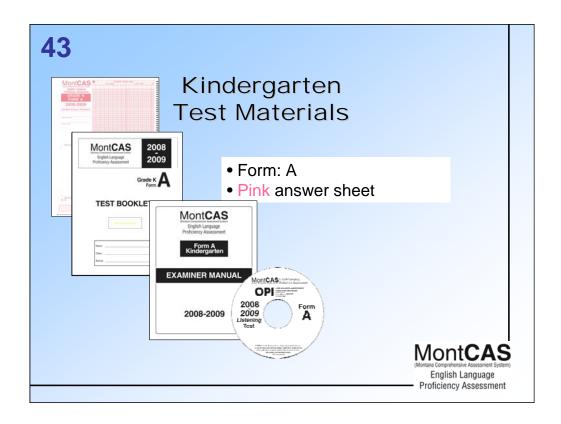
With the exception of students with certain disabilities, all participating LEP students should be administered all sections of the test.

If a student is absent for a particular testing session, a make-up test should be scheduled for that student as soon as possible, within the testing window.



Now we will go on to look at each grade-span test individually, and how it is administered.

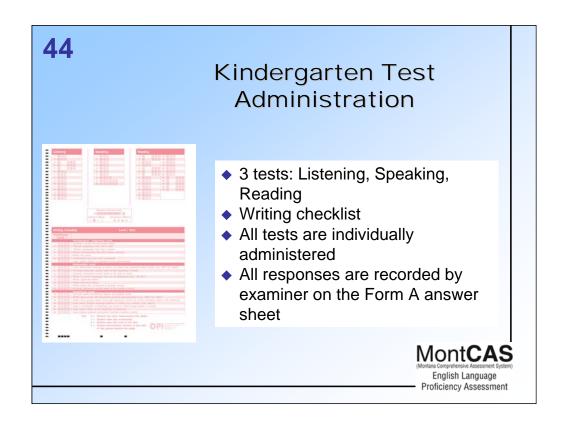
We will start with...Testing Kindergarten



All kindergarten materials are identified as Form A.

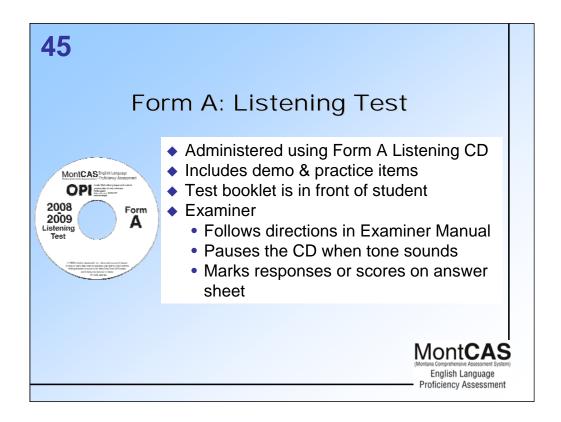
For each kindergartener being tested, you will need: 1 Form A Test Booklet and 1 Form A answer sheet.

There are no separate Beginner Level forms for kindergarten. All kindergarteners take the same test.



Kindergarteners take 3 tests: Listening, Speaking, and Reading. There is a Writing Checklist, which the student's regular teacher fills out based on classroom observation.

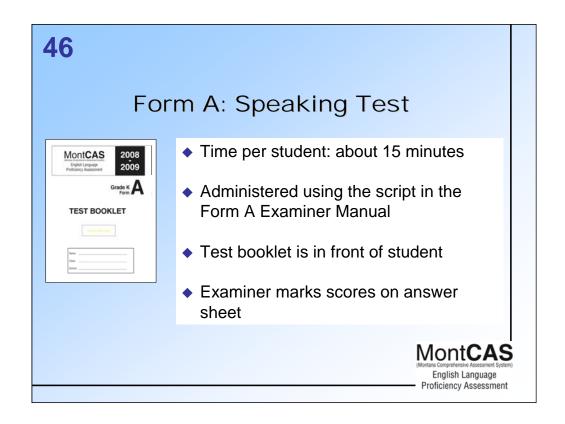
All tests at the Kindergarten level are individually administered. All responses are recorded or scored by the examiner and marked on the answer sheet by the examiner.



The Kindergarten Listening Test is administered with the Form A Listening Test CD. The examiner pauses the CD when a tone sounds to give the student a chance to respond to the question. The examiner then scores the response and records the score on the student's answer sheet.

There are demonstration and practice items. For the demonstration items, the examiner demonstrates how to respond (following the instructions in the Examiner Manual). For the practice items, the student responds, but if the student gets the answer wrong, the examiner explains to the student what the right answer is.

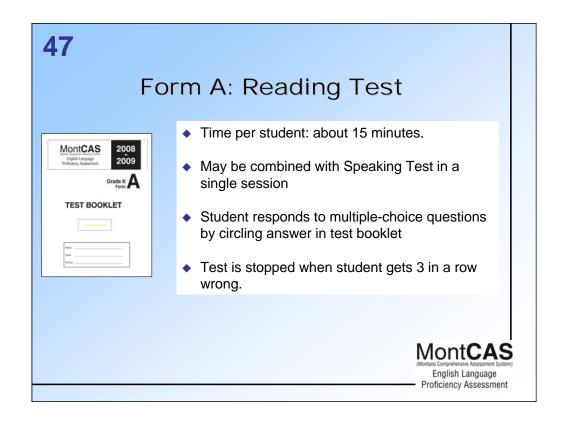
As the CD plays, the examiner follows along in the student booklet and points to the picture or other prompt for each item.



The Kindergarten Speaking Test takes about 15 minutes per student.

The Examiner reads the script in the Form A Examiner Manual, scores the student's responses based on the Scoring Guides, and marks the scores on the answer sheet.

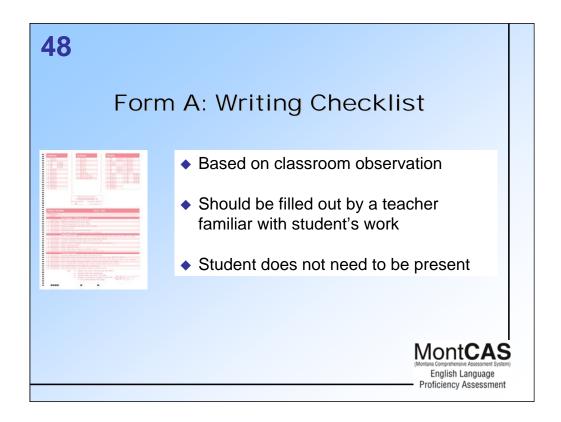
The student has the Form A test booklet, open to the Speaking section, in front of him or her. The examiner points to the picture prompts in the booklet and tells the student when to turn the page.



The Kindergarten Reading Test takes about 15 minutes per student. Because the Speaking and Reading tests are both relatively short, the examiner may choose to administer these together in a single session with an individual student.

Some of the questions are open-ended and some are multiple-choice. Students respond to multiple-choice questions by circling the answer in their test booklet. The Examiner *records* the student's responses to multiple-choice questions, but *scores* the open-ended questions.

In contrast to the other subtests, the Kindergarten Reading Test is halted if and when the student reaches frustration level, which is defined as the point at which the student has missed three consecutive questions.

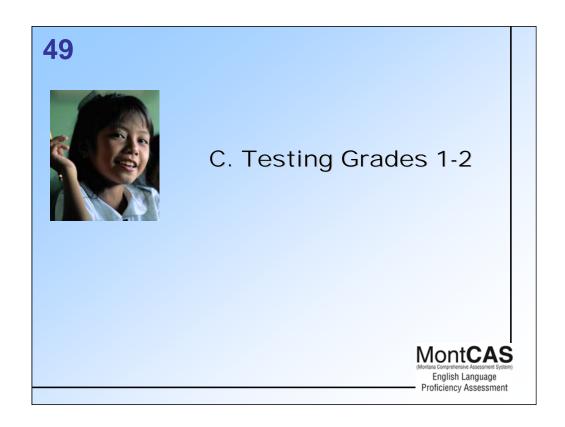


There is no Kindergarten Writing Test, only a Writing Checklist. This is found on the answer sheet and should be filled out by a teacher familiar with the student's classroom work. The student does not need to be present.

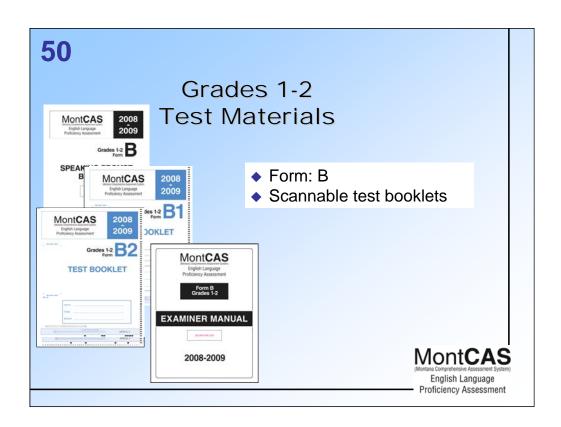
The teacher indicates whether a student has never demonstrated a particular ability, does this occasionally, does this most of the time, or has demonstrated mastery of this skill.

Sample observations of abilities are:

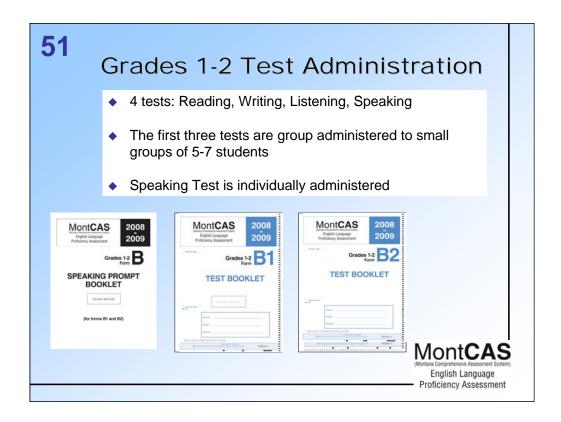
- Shows understanding that print carries meaning.
- Writes first name.
- Writes lowercase letters.
- Writes letters that correspond to English sounds.
- Writes many words with discernible phonetic approximations, such as C-R for car.



We will now move on to Testing Grades 1 and 2.

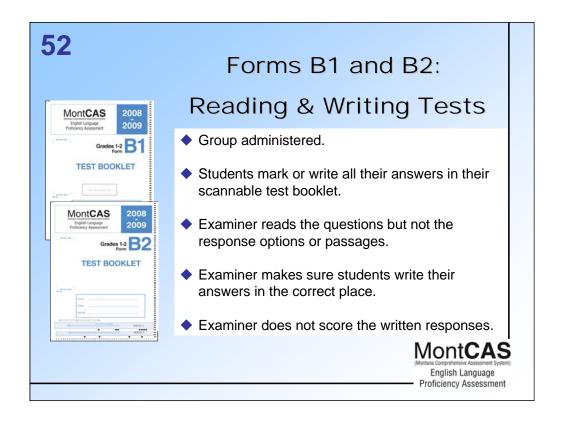


All test materials for grades 1 and 2 are identified as Form B. There are two scannable test booklets (B1 and B2). There are no other answer documents for this grade span. Students take <u>either</u> the B1 test (which is for LEP1 Beginner students) or the B2 test. They may <u>not</u> take part of one and part of the other.



LEP students in grades 1 and 2 take all four tests: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking.

The Reading, Writing, and Listening tests are group administered. The Speaking Test is individually administered.



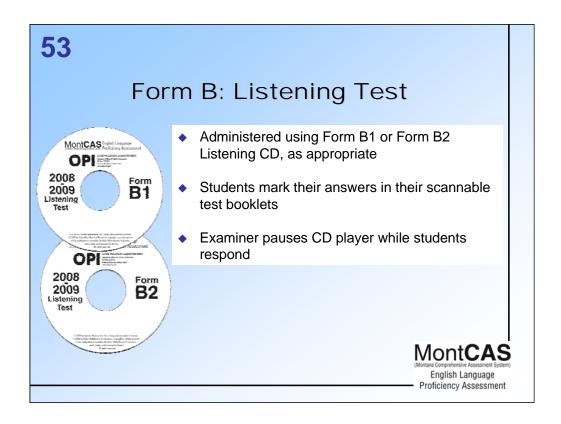
The Reading and Writing tests for first and second-graders are group administered to small groups of 5 to 7 students. Students taking Form B1 must be tested separately from students taking Form B2.

Students mark or write all their answers in their scannable test booklet.

The examiner reads each question to the group, but does not read the response options or the passages.

The examiner or an aide should monitor students carefully during the test to make sure they are on the right page and are marking their answers in the correct spot.

The examiner does <u>not</u> score the written responses.



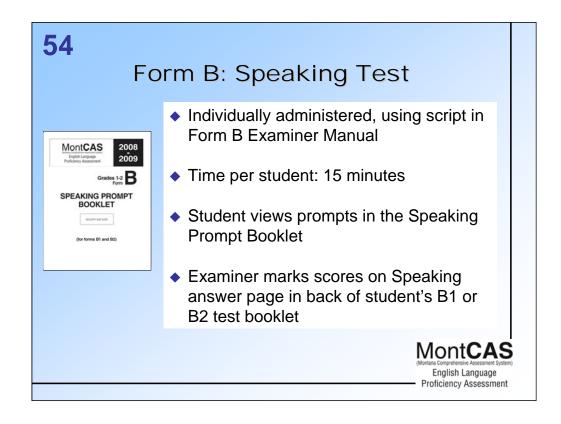
There are separate Listening CDs for each B form.

The Listening Test for grades 1-2 is group administered to small groups of 5-7 students.

Reminder: Level 1 (Beginner) and Level 2 (Intermediate/Advanced) students cannot be tested together on the Listening Test this year.

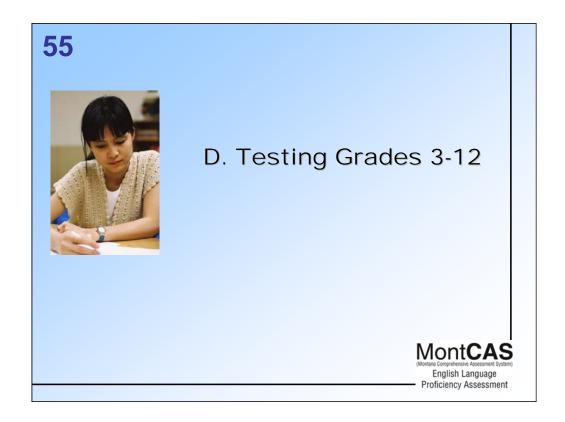
The examiner pauses the CD at the tone, to give students time to mark their answers. The questions are all multiple-choice. Students mark their answers in their scannable test booklets.

The examiner or an aide should monitor students carefully during the test to make sure they are on the right page and are marking their answers correctly by filling in the bubbles.

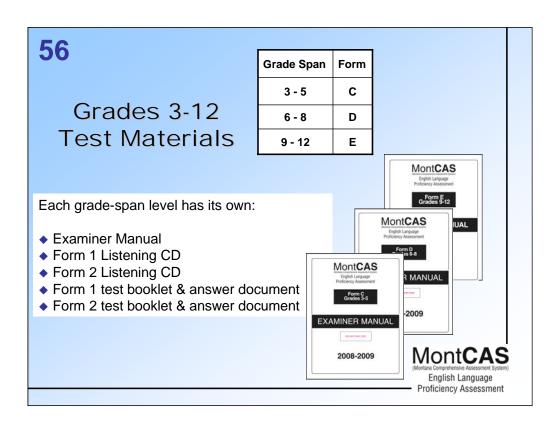


The Speaking Test is individually administered, and takes about 15 minutes per student. The examiner reads the script in the Form B Examiner Manual, while the student views the prompts in the Speaking Prompt Booklet.

The examiner scores the student's oral responses and marks the scores on the Speaking answer page in the back of the student's B1 or B2 test booklet. Reminder: The Speaking tests are <u>not</u> identical for B1 and B2 students.



Administration procedures for grades 3-12 can be lumped together because, although the test forms are different, the procedures are the same and the materials are similar.



Form C is for grade span 3-5.

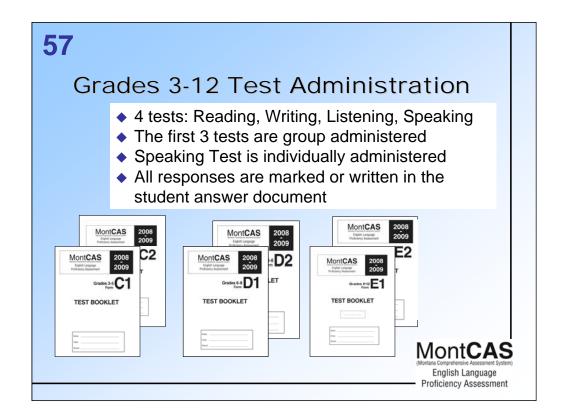
Form D is for grade span 6-8.

Form E is for grade span 9-12.

Each grade-span level has its own:

- Examiner Manual
- Form 1 Listening CD
- Form 2 Listening CD
- Form 1 test booklet and answer document
- Form 2 test booklet and answer document

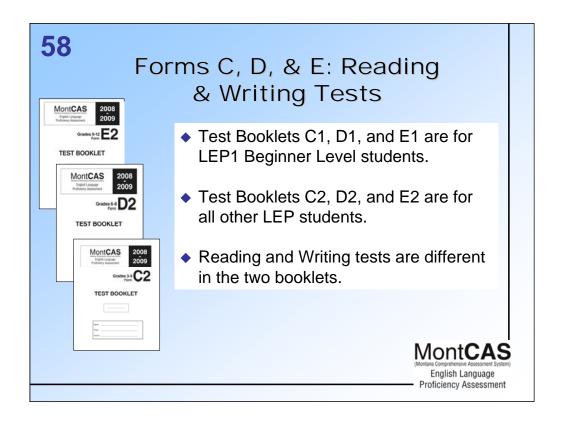
For example, to test non-Beginner students in grades 3 through 5, an examiner will need: a Form C Examiner Manual, a Form C2 Listening CD, Form C2 test booklets and Form C2 answer documents.



LEP students in grades 3 and up take all four tests: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking.

The first three are group administered. The Speaking Test is individually administered, and should be given last.

All responses are marked or written in the student answer document. There is one answer document per student, and it must match the test form.

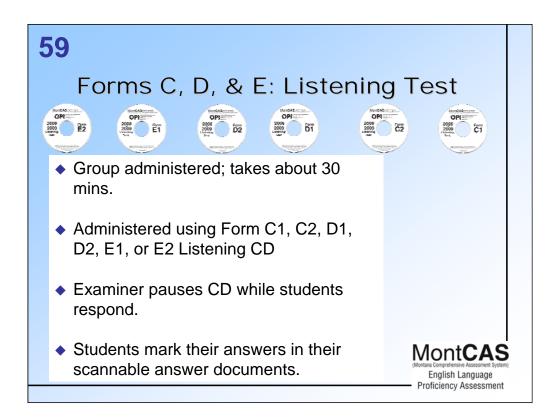


The C1, D1 and E1 test booklets contain the Reading and Writing tests for LEP1 Beginner students. The C2, D2, and E2 test booklets contain the Reading and Writing Tests for all other LEP students.

Students taking different forms must be tested in separate groups.

All answers are marked or written in the student's scannable answer document. The examiner does not score the written responses.

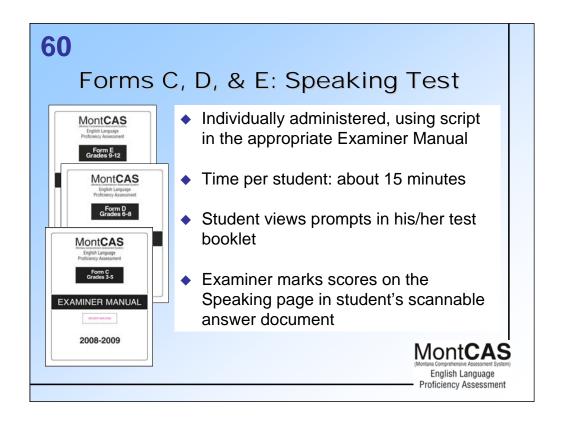
The examiner should monitor students carefully during testing to ensure students are writing their responses in the correct places, and if not, have the students write their responses in the correct place.



The Listening Test for the upper three grade spans is group administered and takes about 30 minutes.

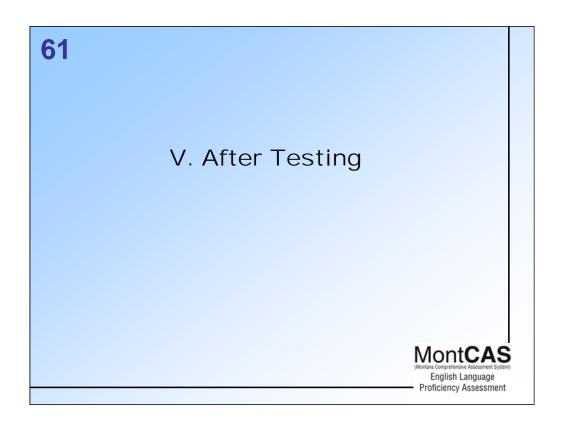
The examiner pauses the CD at the tone to give students time to mark their answers. The questions are all multiple-choice.

Reminder: Level 1 (Beginner) and Level 2 (Intermediate) students cannot be tested together on the Listening Test this year. These tests are no longer identical. There are separate Listening CDs for each form.



The Speaking Test for the upper grades is individually administered, and takes about 15 minutes per student. The Examiner reads the script in the C, D, or E Examiner Manual, while the student views the prompts in the Speaking section of the test booklet.

The examiner scores the student's oral responses and marks the scores on the Speaking answer page in the student's answer document. The Speaking test should be administered last so the student does not get a chance to see how his or her responses were scored.



Finally, let's look at what each person needs to do after testing is completed.

After testing, the examiner:

- → Checks answer documents for completeness & proper bubbling.
- → Completes one Examiner ID Sheet per grade-span group & places it in the Scoring Envelope with answer documents.
- → Returns all materials to the School Test Coordinator.



After testing, the examiner checks answer documents for completeness and proper bubbling. If there are light marks for answers, the response mark should be darkened so that it fills the circle. If there are incomplete erasures, these erasures should be completed. Any stray marks on the answer document should be erased.

The examiner completes one Examiner ID Sheet per grade span tested. In other words, if a particular examiner tested students in grades K through 5, he or she would complete 3 Examiner ID Sheets: one for grade K, one for grades 1-2, and one for grades 3-5. On the Examiner ID Sheet, the examiner is responsible for bubbling in the Examiner Name, the Grade Span, the System and School Codes, and the number of completed answer documents being submitted for this grade span.

The examiner should place the answer documents for a single grade-span group along with the Examiner ID Sheet in the appropriate Scoring Envelope. Since the answer documents for grade span 1-2 are scannable test booklets (and thus fairly thick), white Scoring Envelopes (which are larger) have been provided. Answer documents for all other grade spans should be placed in the tan Scoring Envelopes. If more than one Scoring Envelope is needed, the examiner should label them 1 of X, 2 of X, etc. and put the Examiner ID Sheet in envelope #1.

Finally, the examiner returns the Scoring Envelopes plus all used and unused test materials to the School Test Coordinator.

After testing, the School Test Coordinator:

- Collects answer documents & all other test materials from examiners.
- Completes the School ID Sheet.
- → Affixes student barcode labels to student answer documents.
- Bubbles student information if there is no student barcode label.
- Notifies AIM Coordinator to update student information.
- Affixes voided barcode labels onto the Voided Barcode Label Form.
- Returns all materials to the System Test Coordinator by November 26th.



After testing, the School Test Coordinator collects answer documents and all other test materials from the examiners.

The School Coordinator checks that each examiner has completed an Examiner ID sheet for each grade-span group they tested. Each Examiner ID sheet should be in the front of the Scoring Services Envelope and should show through the window of the tan envelopes. (Note that the white Scoring Services Envelopes for the Form B scannable booklets do not have a window.)

The School Coordinator completes the yellow School ID Sheet. This summarizes the number of answer documents being returned. There are directions on the sheet.

The School Coordinator checks student information, then matches up and affixes student barcode labels to the appropriate student answer documents.

If there is no barcode label for a student, the School Coordinator must print and bubble in by hand all of the student's information.

If there is student information on the barcode labels that requires updating (student name, grade, date of birth, Home Language, Language of Impact), the School Coordinator can still use the label, but must notify the AIM coordinator of the updates needed.

The School Coordinator affixes any voided student barcode labels onto the Form for Voided Barcode Labels and marks why each label was voided.

Finally, the School Coordinator returns the answer documents, packed in Scoring Envelopes, along with all other test materials, used and unused, to the System Test Coordinator by November 26th.

After testing, the System Test Coordinator:

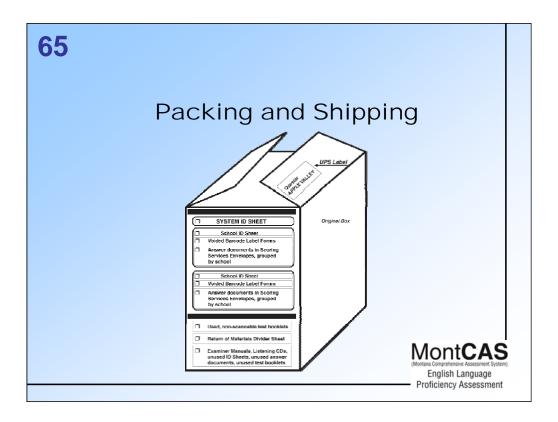
- → Receives answer documents & all other test materials from each school in the system.
- → Fills out the System ID Sheet.
- → Packs and ships answer documents & all other test materials by December 5th.



After testing, the System Test Coordinator receives the answer documents and all other test materials back from each school. The Coordinator makes sure a completed School ID Sheet is on top of the stack of Scoring Envelopes from each school. This School ID Sheet lists each Scoring Envelope from the school and the number of answer documents each contains.

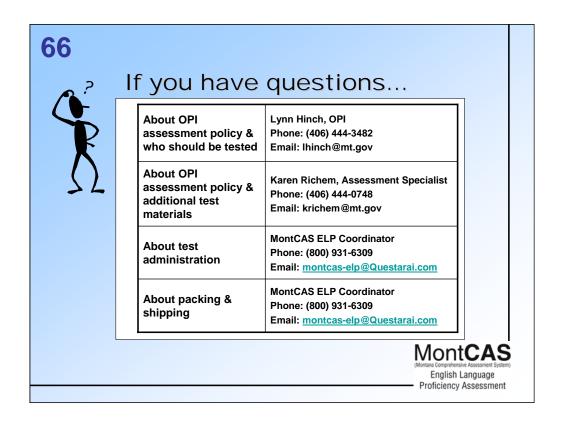
The System Test Coordinator fills out the System ID Sheet. On the back of the System ID Sheet, the Coordinator will create a master list of each school and the number of completed answer documents returned from that school.

The System Test Coordinator packs and ships the answer documents, plus all used and unused test materials, by December 5th so that Questar Scoring Services receives them no later than December 12th.



Packing and Shipping Instructions

- Use the system box(es) in which the test materials were originally shipped, if possible. If more than one box is used, number the boxes 1 of X, 2 of X, etc.
- Place all Examiner Manuals, all Listening CDs, all <u>unused</u> ID Sheets, all <u>unused</u> answer documents, and all <u>unused</u> test booklets in the bottom of the box. Cover with the goldenrod Return of Materials Divider Sheet.
- Next, place the used non-scannable test booklets on top of the unused materials.
- -Put the stacks of Scoring Services Envelopes (containing completed answer documents or scannable booklets, and an Examiner ID sheet) on top of the other test materials. Note: Make sure that the yellow School ID Sheet is placed on the top of each school stack along with any Forms for Voided Barcode Labels. If you are using more than one box, put the Scoring Services Envelopes all together in Box #1.
- Place the System ID Sheet on top of the Scoring Services Envelopes.
- -If filler is needed, use scrunched up paper, not Styrofoam. This is important as Styrofoam can make the answer documents unscannable.
- -Please do not use staples, rubber bands, or paper clips to organize or pack the answer documents.
- -Use the UPS return label(s) provided by Questar to return your materials.

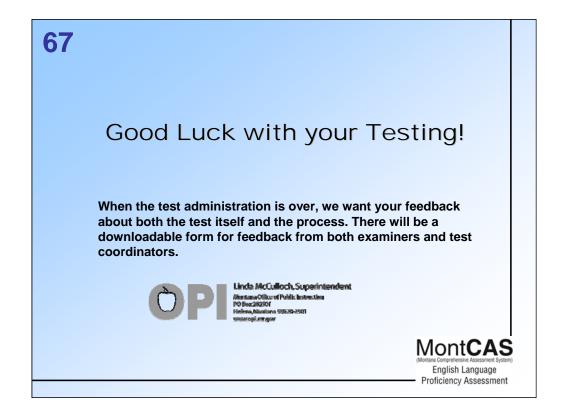


Remember: you are not alone!

If you have questions, there are people and resources to help you through the assessment process.

Karen Richem and Lynn Hinch are available to answer questions about assessment policies — for example, if you are not sure whether or not a certain student should be tested.

Questions about test administration and returning materials to Questar Assessment, Inc. can be addressed to the MontCAS ELP Coordinator at montcaselp@QuestarAl.com. The Coordinator will make every effort to get back to you within 1 or 2 business days.



Good luck with your testing!

When the test administration is over, we want your feedback about both the test itself and the process. There will be a downloadable form for feedback from both examiners and test coordinators. Thank you.